

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR REVIEW OF NOAA RESEARCH

BACKGROUND

The 2003 House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Reports have language pertaining to the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, (NOAA Research). The report accompanying the House Commerce, Justice State (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee mark states: "In recognition of current resource limitations the Committee is forced to operate within, the Committee directs NOAA to review the continued requirements for twelve separate laboratories, six of which are located in Boulder, Colorado. The Committee directs NOAA to submit a laboratory consolidation plan to the Committee by March 15, 2004." The Senate report language states: "NOAA is directed to report to the Committee on Appropriations on the costs and benefits of breaking OAR up into its constituent parts and distributing those parts as desirable to the other line offices. The report should specifically address how the newly configured research sector will directly assist line offices in developing timely solutions to problems confronting NOAA now and in the next 5 years."

In response to the Congressional report language the NOAA asked the Science Advisory Board (SAB) to appoint a Research Review Team consisting of five members. The Review team will be disbanded once the review is completed and a final report issued. This panel is tasked with; **1) Conducting a review of OAR for the purpose of improving the effectiveness and efficiency of its research enterprise, 2) Establishing if OAR is adequately linked to NOAA's service organizations, 3) Assessing if the research programs are relevant to the needs of these organizations.** The team's recommendations will assist NOAA in responding to the language in the 2004 House and Senate CJS appropriation reports.

The Research Review Team will present its findings to the Science Advisory Board in two (2) reports. The draft of the first report will be posted on the Science Advisory Board web site at: <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/reports/review-draft.pdf>, on DECEMBER 15, 2003 for public comment. Public comments may be submitted from December 15, 2003 to January 14, 2004 .

The review panel is seeking public comment from all interested parties. This draft is being issued for comment only and is not intended for interim use. The Review Team will review the public comments received on the draft document. Suggested changes will be incorporated, where appropriate, in the final draft report.

NOAA welcomes all comments on the content of the report.

In addition the Review team is soliciting public comments at other for a including the AGU and AMS annual meetings, Please respond if you have any comments, thoughts, or suggestions, on NOAA's research enterprise, or any ideas about changes or realignments that would increase efficiencies and effectiveness? **Please provide them on the reverse side.** OR

Send you comments electronically to research.review@noaa.gov, or by mail to NOAA Research, Science Advisory Board, c/o Ms. M. Whitcomb, Silver Spring Metro Center Bldg 3 Room 11558, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

YOUR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name (First, Last) _____

Your Organization _____

Area(s) of expertise _____

Mailing Address:

(Street) _____

(City State, Zip Code) _____

Telephone number (area code) _____

Fax number _____

Email _____

Date _____

